

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1 1. An electronic reading device, comprising:
2 a reading sensor for detecting a portion of an
3 address pattern on a formatted surface;
4 a processor for identifying the detected portion
5 of the address pattern as being within an electronic
6 reading device configuration area and for converting
7 position data received from the reading sensor into a
8 configuration setting.
- 1 2. The electronic reading device of claim 1,
2 wherein the electronic reading device configuration area
3 comprises an electronic reading device configuration form.
- 1 3. The electronic reading device of claim 1,
2 further comprising a memory for storing the configuration
3 setting.
- 1 4. The electronic reading device of claim 1,
2 wherein the processor converts the position data into the
3 configuration setting using a configuration application.

1 5. The electronic reading device of claim 1,
2 wherein the position data corresponds to handwritten
3 information written with the electronic reading device,
4 the conversion of the position data into the configuration
5 setting performed using handwriting recognition.

1 6. The electronic reading device of claim 5,
2 wherein the handwritten information is entered in a field
3 of the electronic reading device configuration area that
4 corresponds to the configuration setting.

1 7. The electronic reading device of claim 1,
2 wherein the position data is associated with at least one
3 of a plurality of fields, the processor operating to
4 convert a detection of a portion of the address pattern
5 within the at least one of the fields into a configuration
6 setting corresponding to the at least one field.

1 8. The electronic reading device of claim 7,
2 wherein each of the plurality of fields corresponds to a
3 different alphanumeric character.

1 9. The electronic reading device of claim 1,
2 wherein the configuration setting comprises an
3 identification code.

1 10. The electronic reading device of claim 1,
2 wherein the configuration setting represents an address of
3 a server used for authenticating configuration of the
4 electronic reading device.

1 11. The electronic reading device of claim 1,
2 further comprising a transmitter for transmitting the
3 configuration setting to a support server.

1 12. The electronic reading device of claim 1,
2 wherein the transmitter transmits information via one of a
3 cable and a local wireless link.

1 13. A system for initializing an electronic reading
2 device, comprising:

3 a formatted surface having an address pattern,
4 wherein a position relative to the address pattern can be
5 determined from an examination of a portion of the address
6 pattern;

7 an electronic reading device including a reading
8 sensor for detecting portions of the address pattern; and

9 a processor for translating detected portions of
10 the address pattern into at least one alphanumeric
11 character.

1 14. The system of claim 13, wherein the detected
2 portions of the address pattern correspond to at least one
3 handwritten character written with the electronic reading
4 device on the formatted surface, the processor translating
5 the detected portions of the address pattern into the at
6 least one alphanumeric character.

1 15. The system of claim 13, further comprising a
2 server for storing the at least one alphanumeric
3 character.

1 16. The system of claim 13, further comprising a
2 server for comparing the at least one alphanumeric
3 character with a stored identification code.

1 17. The system of claim 16, wherein the server
2 enables a use of the electronic reading device when the at
3 least one alphanumeric character matches the stored
4 identification code.

1 18. The system of claim 16, wherein the electronic
2 reading device communicates with the server via a local
3 wireless link interface.

1 19. The system of claim 16, wherein the electronic
2 reading device communicates with the server using one of
3 an infrared signal, inductive coupling, and a cable
4 connection.

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1 20. A method for configuring an electronic reading
2 device, comprising the steps of:
3 detecting at least one position of the
4 electronic reading device relative to an address pattern
5 on a formatted surface;
6 determining that the at least one detected
7 position relates to an entry of configuration data;
8 converting the at least one detected position
9 into a configuration setting; and
10 storing the configuration setting.

1 21. The method of claim 20, wherein the step of
2 determining that the at least one detected position
3 relates to an entry of configuration data comprises
4 identifying a portion of the address pattern adjacent to
5 the electronic reading device as corresponding to a
6 configuration entry form.

1 22. The method of claim 20, wherein the step of
2 converting comprises performing handwriting recognition.

1 23. The method of claim 20, wherein the
2 configuration setting comprises a user identifier, further
3 comprising the steps of:
4 detecting a data entry subsequent to the step of
5 storing, said data entry made with the electronic reading
6 device on a surface having an address pattern;
7 comparing the data entry with the stored user
8 identifier; and
9 enabling the electronic reading device if the
10 data entry corresponds to the stored user identifier.

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1 24. A system for unlocking an electronic reading
2 device, comprising:
3 a formatted surface having an address pattern,
4 wherein a position relative to the address pattern can be
5 determined from an examination of a portion of the address
6 pattern;
7 an electronic reading device including a reading
8 sensor for detecting portions of the address pattern; and
9 a first processor for translating detected
10 portions of the address pattern into a data entry; and
11 a second processor for comparing the data entry
12 to a stored user identifier and for enabling the
13 electronic reading device if the data entry corresponds to
14 the stored user identifier.

1 25. The system of claim 24, wherein the first
2 processor and the second processor are the same processor.

1 26. The system of claim 24, wherein the first
2 processor performs said translation using character
3 recognition.

1 27. The system of claim 24, wherein the data entry
2 and the stored user identifier represent a handwritten
3 signature.

1 28. The system of claim 24, wherein the data entry
2 and the stored user identifier represent a personal
3 identification number.

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1 29. A method for unlocking an electronic reading
2 device, comprising the steps of:
3 detecting a plurality of positions of an
4 electronic reading device relative to an address pattern
5 on a formatted surface;
6 converting the plurality of detected positions
7 into a data entry;
8 comparing the data entry with a stored user
9 identifier; and
10 enabling the electronic reading device based on
11 the comparison if the data entry corresponds to the stored
12 user identifier.

1 30. The method of claim 29, wherein the step of
2 converting comprises performing handwriting recognition.

1 31. The method of claim 29, wherein the data entry
2 and the stored user identifier represent a handwritten
3 signature.

1 32. The method of claim 29, wherein the data entry
2 and the stored user identifier represent a personal
3 identification number.